

REMARKS

According to the foregoing, claims 25 and 30-32 are amended; thus, the pending claims 2-4, 7-9, 12-14, 17-19 and 21-32 remain for reconsideration, which is respectfully requested.

No new matter has been added and accordingly, approval and entry of the amended claims 25 and 30-32 are respectfully requested.

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS:

Claims 2-4, 7-9, 12-14, 17-19 and 21-32 are pending.

Claims 2-4, 7-9, 12-14, 17-19 and 21-32 rejected.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 2-4, 7-9, 12-14, 17-19 AND 21-32 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) AS ALLEGEDLY BEING UNPATENTABLE OVER ELKO ET AL., U.S. PATENT NO. 5,537,574, HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS "ELKO," IN VIEW OF ADVANCE FILE SYSTEM IMPLEMENTER'S GUIDE, PART 8 PUBLISHED DEC. 1, 2001, HEREINAFTER "IBM DOCUMENT."

The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

In accordance with the interview summary of the interview conducted on August 9, 2007, Applicants respectfully submit that the IBM Document is not prior art against the present application, since the present application is a continuation of a PCT application, designating the United States, which was filed on August 31, 1999. Accordingly, withdrawal of the claim rejections is respectfully requested and a new Office Action (if necessary) is requested.

Furthermore, in accordance with the foregoing, claims 25 and 30-32 are amended to correct an inadvertent error introduced into the claims. Support for the claim amendment can be found, for example, in FIG. 4 and at page 13, lines 27-38. Entry and approval of the amended claims is respectfully requested. Further, no new search should be required since claims 25 and 30-32 are amended to recite features similar to those of claim 29.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.


Serial No. 10/033,905

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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